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MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

The executive committee has approved the following statement of the policy of the society with reference to the acceptance of material on deposit:

"Owners of material offered on deposit will be urged to present the material outright, with the understanding that it shall be accessible to them at all times when the department to which it belongs is open. Material will be accepted subject to restrictions as to the use to be made of it, such restrictions to be agreed upon in each case and formulated in writing.

"Material of special value, which can not be secured as the property of the society, and which is in danger of destruction if not deposited with the society, or which, if accepted on deposit, is likely to become ultimately the property of the society, may be so accepted under the following conditions:

1. The society will not assume any responsibility for material so deposited in case of loss or destruction by theft, fire, or otherwise.

2. Material so deposited by an individual shall become the property of the society upon the death of that individual without having reclaimed it. In the case of material deposited by a society or corporation, whenever possible a definite date shall be fixed after which it shall become the property of the Minnesota Historical Society if not previously reclaimed.

3. Owners of material on deposit may be notified at any time that the material must be removed within a specified period, and if not so removed, it shall then become the property of the society.

"These conditions shall not apply to material desired by the society for a special purpose and a limited period, such as for special exhibitions, research work, or the making of transcripts."

The prospects are that the new building for the society will not be completed before December. The bookstack will probably be ready for occupancy before the rest of the building is com-

pleted and it is hoped that the formidable task of moving the library to its new quarters may be begun about November 1. The Mississippi Valley Historical Association having accepted the society's invitation to hold its annual meeting in St. Paul in May, it is probable that arrangements will be made for the dedication of the building at that time.

Very Rev. Humphrey Moynihan and Bernard Snell, both of St. Paul, were enrolled as active members during the quarter ending July 31, 1917. Deaths among the members during the same period were as follows: Dr. Burnside Foster of St. Paul, June 12; Hon. Matthew G. Norton of Winona, July 15; and Rev. William C. Pope of St. Paul, June 7. William Hayes of Winona died on March 27.

Miss Ada Nelson of the Grinnell College Library has been appointed a catalogue assistant on the staff of the society.

GIFTS

A rare pamphlet of thirty-two pages containing a realistic narrative of experiences in Andersonville prison has been presented to the society by Mr. B. M. Aslakson of Chicago. It is entitled *Ti Maaneders Fangenskap i Andersonville* and was written by Burns (Björn) Aslakson, the father of the donor, who settled in Carver County in 1855 and in 1862 enlisted as a volunteer in Company H of the Ninth Minnesota Infantry. The donor states that the pamphlet was printed about thirty years ago by the Augsburg Publishing Company of Minneapolis. It contains an introductory note by Professor Sven Oftedal, who was at that time editor of *Folkebladet*, and who was a personal friend of the author and presumably edited the narrative.

Dr. William Watts Folwell has deposited with the society a part of his files of correspondence accumulated during many years of service to the people of the state and expects to turn over additional material from time to time. The "Folwell Papers," as they will be designated, will be a valuable addition to the manuscript collection of the society.

Hon. Charles P. Craig of Duluth, who was chairman of the Minnesota Efficiency and Economy Commission appointed by

Governor Eberhart in October, 1913, has turned over the records of this commission to be preserved by the society as a part of the state archives.

Miss A. S. Millard of St. Paul has given the society a postal card written by the late Bishop Edsall, November 28, 1914, expressing his views on peace and disarmament as follows: "I cordially endorse all efforts tending to foster the desire for ultimate peace and universal disarmament. I believe tho that the present war should be fought to such a finish that militarism should be crushed and discouraged; and that pending agreement for universal disarmament our own country should maintain an efficient navy and army."

Three oil paintings which formerly hung in the Zimmerman photographic studio, St. Paul, have been presented by Mrs. C. A. Zimmerman. The subjects are William K. Gaston, an attorney in St. Paul for forty years; Robert Armstrong Smith, several times mayor of St. Paul; and Willis A. Gorman, second governor of Minnesota Territory. The names of the painters of the first two have not been ascertained. The last is the work of Carl Gutherz, an artist of national reputation, and was made from a photograph in 1883.

From Mrs. N. W. Reay of St. Paul the society has received through the courtesy of the St. Paul Public Library a collection of New York papers published during the Civil War. These files of the *Herald*, *Times*, and *Evening Post*, while incomplete, contain much material of value to the student of history.

Through the courtesy of Dr. William W. Folwell, Mr. Edward I. Kimball of Minneapolis has presented a collection of interesting letters written by his father, Major W. M. Kimball, in 1863, while he was participating in Sibley's campaign against the Indians.

The society is indebted to Mr. A. A. Pollard of Minneapolis for a file of *Construction Details*, a magazine published in St. Paul during the years 1912-15 in the interests of architects and the building trades. Mr. Pollard also presented a small volume of verse by Mr. George E. Bertrand, a well-known architect of

Minneapolis, entitled *Sonnets to the Ideal* (Minneapolis, 1911. 39 p.).

The Corning-Firestone Advertising Agency has presented portraits of sixteen prominent citizens of St. Paul, each accompanied by brief biographical data. These are advance sheets of a book to be entitled "The Men of St. Paul," which will contain several hundred such pictures.

The society has received from Mrs. W. R. Weide of Madison, South Dakota, several pictures of historical interest. A photograph of Fort Snelling, taken in 1850, and one of the Falls of St. Anthony, taken in 1868, are especially worthy of note.

Mr. D. D. Smith of St. Paul has donated a prospectus of the *American Cyclopedia* containing a valuable list of autograph signatures of early residents of Minnesota.

A lithograph of the city of Winona, dated 1874, has been presented by Hon. George T. Simpson of Minneapolis.

The society receives many new books and pamphlets, especially privately printed ones, as gifts from the authors or publishers. Among the items of this sort that have come in recently are the following: *Rambles about Historic Brooklyn*, from the publisher, the Brooklyn Trust Company; *Souvenir of the Diamond Jubilee of St. Mary's Church, Iowa City*, from the compiler, Joseph Fuhrmann; *The Diamond Jubilee of St. Joseph's Church, Ft. Madison, Iowa*, from the compiler, Rev. A. J. Kaiser; *Albert S. Pease, Selections from His Poems, with an Autobiography and a Genealogy of His Descendants*, from Mrs. Nellie Pease Whiteside; *Additional Baskerville Genealogy*, from the author, P. Hamilton Baskervill; *The Raritan, Notes on a River and a Family*, from the author, John C. Van Dyke; *Genealogy of the Descendants of John Whitmarsh*, from the author, Newton Whitmarsh Bates; and *The Corbett Family*, from the author, Henry R. Corbett. Such gifts are very much appreciated as it is usually difficult to secure privately printed books through the regular book market.